

SECRET**PRIORITY**

1968 MAY 21 18 15Z

OUT 65166

SECRET 211758Z MAY 68 CITE SP-100030019-4

25X1

SUBJECT: EVALUATION OF BLACK SHIELD MISSION BX6858

1. CAMERA TYPE I (115A), UNIT F WAS USED ON MISSION BX6858 FLOWN 6 MAY 1968. BOTH CAMERAS OPERATED SATISFACTORILY THROUGHOUT THE MISSION. THE MISSION CONTAINS 1520 TITLED FRAMES.

2. GROUND RESOLUTION IS FAIR THROUGHOUT THE MISSION. THE BEST RESOLUTION IS ESTIMATED [REDACTED] (BAR PLUS SPACE) IN THE NEAR VERTICAL PORTIONS OF THE FORMAT. CLOUDS AND HAZE ARE A DEGRADING FACTOR THROUGHOUT THE ENTIRE MISSION.

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3. EXPOSURE IS SATISFACTORY THROUGHOUT THE MISSION.

4. TWO MINUS DENSITY STREAKS PARALLEL TO THE MAJOR AXIS (1.38 AND 2.84 INCHES FROM THE TITLED EDGE) ARE PRESENT IN ALL FORWARD FRAMES THROUGHOUT THE MISSION. FAINT MINUS DENSITY STREAKS PARALLEL TO THE MAJOR AXIS ARE PRESENT IN ALL AFT FRAMES. PARALLEL TO THE MINOR AXIS OF THE FILM IS PRESENT FOR THE FIRST 1.0 TO 3.3 INCHES OF SCAN ON ALL FORWARD FRAMES. SIMILAR BANDING IS VISIBLE ON THE LAST 200 AFT FRAMES. THE TIMING DOTS ARE SKEWED OFF THE FILM INTERMITTENTLY THROUGHOUT THE MISSION. A 1.3 INCH MINUS DENSITY BAND PARALLEL TO THE MAJOR AXIS IS PRESENT ALONG

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EDGES OF ALL FRAMES.

5. SEVERAL FRAMES OF THE MISSION ARE RETITLED, PROBABLY DUE TO LOSS OF ORIGINAL TITLING DURING REMASHING OF THE ORIGINAL NEGATIVE. THE MISSION MATERIAL CONTAINS MORE THAN THE USUAL NUMBER OF HANDLING MARKS AND FOREIGN MATTER DEPOSITS.

6. ALL DATA CHAMBER RECORDINGS ARE OPERATIONAL THROUGHOUT THE MISSION. THE INS TAPE TO FILM CORRELATION IS SATISFACTORY.

7. NO APPRECIABLE DIFFERENCE IN IMAGE QUALITY IS NOTED BETWEEN THE ZERO PRIORITY POSITIVES AND THE ZI PRODUCED POSITIVES.

8. THE INDEX MARK HAS BEEN PLACED ON THE MATERIAL FOR REFERENCE OF THE UNIVERSAL GRID. THE GRID INSTRUCTIONS ON THE HEAD AND TAIL IDENTIS DO NOT UTILIZE THE INDEX MARK. UPDATED GRID INSTRUCTIONS SHOULD BE PLACED ON THE IDENTIS.

9. CLOUDS OBSCURE APPROXIMATELY 55 PERCENT OF THE TOTAL MISSION TAKE. PHOTOGRAPHY OVER THE LAND AREA WAS APPROXIMATELY 50 PERCENT CLOUD COVERED; HOWEVER, MEDIUM TO HEAVY HAZE DEGRADES THE REMAINING OF THE PHOTOGRAPHY OVER LAND AREAS.

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END OF MESSAGE

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